

JAN 06 2006

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**FACSIMILE COVER LETTER**

To: Examiner William K. Cheung  
Firm: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Facsimile: 571 273-8300  
From: Thomas J. Kowalski  
Date: January 6, 2006  
Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/977,880  
Process For The Preparation Of A Diol  
Filed: October 15, 2005  
Group Art Unit: 2873

Number of Pages:

cc:

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PATENT  
674515-2003IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : HOLDSTOCK, et al.  
Serial No. : 09/977,880  
For : Process for the Preparation of a Diol  
Filed : October 15, 2001  
Examiner : William K. Cheung  
Art Unit : 2873

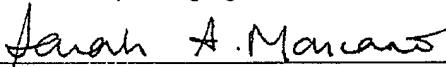
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Signature

January 6, 2006

Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed December 7, 2005, setting a one-month period for reply and containing a restriction requirement. In response, Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, the claims of Group I. As this response is being filed prior to the end of the period for reply, it is believed that no fees are due by entry of this paper. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any necessary fee, or credit any overpayment in fees, to Deposit Account 50-0320.